Income-tax and Central Excise Duty Outstanding against business houses

759. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:
SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of business houses, individuals and others, from whom income-tax amounting to rupees one crore or above is outstanding at present;

(b) what are the names of business houses from whom Central excise duty amounting to rupees one crore or above is outstanding; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to cut-short the protected litigation contested in law courts and recover these huge outstanding amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) The information to the extent possible is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

State Trading Corporation

760. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of full-time directors' posts are lying vacant in the State Trading Corporation;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the State Trading Corporation has been functioning without a regular Chairman; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken to streamline the working of the State Trading Corporation in view of the proposed threat of the State Trading Corporation unions of direct action?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) The posts of a full-time Chairman and two full-time Directors in STC have been lying vacant for some time. Government have already initiated action to fill these posts.

(c) There is no threat of direct action from STC unions. However, the working of the STC is constantly reviewed by Government with a view to improving its export performance and streamlining its functioning.

MMTC's agreement with Hyundai Corporation of South Korea

761. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) has entered into an agreement with Hyundai Corporation of South Korea to develop the Paradip Port;

(b) if so, what are the main responsibilities and commitments of the Hyundai Corporation;

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to some additional demands made by the Hyundai Corporation, the development of Paradip has been stalled; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken to restart the development work of the Paradip Port?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) M/s. Hyundai Corporation of the South Korea had submitted a proposal to MMTC offering assistance in the deepening of Paradip Port. No final decision in this regard has been taken by Government.